

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIEP-03 DRC-01 /153 W

----- 065707

R 281055Z SEP 74

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1294

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 0663

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, IZ

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC CRIMES

REF: BAGHDAD 0605

1. ALTHOUGH NO PUBLICITY YET GIVEN TO ENFORCEMENT OF STRICTER SANCTIONS FOR ECONOMIC CRIMES (REFTEL), THERE ARE RECURRING REPORTS OF ARRESTS OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. MOST PROMINENT IS CHAIRMAN OF GENERAL TRADING ESTABLISHMENT ABDUL WAHAB AL-KASAB. THIS ORGANIZATION SUPERVISES THAT EIGHT STATE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH CONTROL IMPORTS. AL-KASAB WAS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO FOR TAKING COMMISSION ON LARGE IMPORT ORDERS. PROMINENT PRIVATE CONTRACTOR SALIM ABDALLAH WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY ARRESTED AT HOME DURING NIGHT OF SEPT 25 UPON RETURN FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

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2. OTHER PERSONS REPORTED UNDER ARREST FOR HAVING
DISAPPEARED FROM THEIR JOBS INCLUDE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
STATE AUTOMOBILE COMPANY MUMTAZ ABDUL SHAWKI AND EMMANUEL
GARBRIEL, AN ASSYRIAN WHO HELPED PROMOTE EXCHANGED WITH
AMERICAN ASSYRIANS AND IS ALLEGEDLY CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL
CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS.

3. COMMENT: IT STILL SEEMS LIKELY THAT PUBLIC EXAMPLE
WILL SOON BE MADE OF SOME OFFICIALS, BUT REPORTED ARRESTS
PROBABLY ALREADY HAVING DESIRED EFFECTS.
LOWRIE

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